

He's allowed to apply for release from the Mendota hospital every six months...

Now, seven months have passed since the last time Joseph Smith was denied a release by a La Crosse County judge. Smith will have another court hearing on his mental health on April 1st. The La Crosse man has spent only a few months outside of the hospital since he was committed in 2006 for wounding a city policeman in the chest with a screwdriver. At Smith's last hearing before Judge Dale Pasell in August, two doctors disagreed on whether he was well enough to be let out of Mendota.